

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-10 are pending in the application. Claims 4-9 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 and 4-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Juret et al (US 5,013,255). Claim 10 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yumibe et al (US 5,378,160)

Claims 4 – 9 have been amended to correct informalities. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to further clarify the features that distinguish the invention from the prior art. Specifically, the claims have been amended to clarify that the invention is an assembly comprising elongate conductors that have hook shapes at both ends to make solderless (at both ends) electrical connections between pairs of stacked substrates.

The elements of the invention are defined in claim 1, which reads (underscored for emphasis):

1. An assembly for providing solderless electrical connection between first and second substrates aligned in a stacked configuration, said assembly comprising:
 - a conductor assembly having at least one elongate conductor adapted to engage a first electrical contact on said first substrate on one end and a second electrical contact on said second substrate on a second end thereof, said conductor having a three-bend hook shape at both the first and second ends thereof to provide a spring force on both the first and second ends thereof and
 - means for retaining said conductor in abutting contact with said first and second contacts and thereby effect [an] a solderless electrical connection between said first contact on said first substrate and said second contact on said second substrate.

Juret describes an assembly for making electrical contact between a circuit card and a removable electronic memory card. Juret's assembly is comprised of

a housing that supports a plurality of elongate conductors having a hook shape at one end, and simple straight or right-angle solder tails at the other end. Moreover, the spring force holding the conductors against the memory card is provided by flexure of the straight portion of the elongate conductors, rather than by the hook shape at the end. The conductors of Juret do not have hook shapes at both ends, do not provide a spring force at both ends, and do not provide solderless connections at both ends. Thus the applicants respectfully submit that Juret does not anticipate the present invention.


Yumibe discloses an assembly for making electrical connections between parallel printed wiring boards. Unlike the present invention, Yumibe discloses an assembly with a multiplicity of contacts having a three-bend hook shape at only one end, with the other end of the contacts adapted to be “conductively attachable to conductive trace terminations on a first PC board” (Col. 2, lines 27 – 30).

Similarly the art made of record but not relied upon by the Examiner, Cruise et al (US 5,259,769) and Ammar et al (US 6,625,881), disclose assemblies having conductors having a hook shape on one end, with the other end adapted for soldering to a printed wiring board (see the Abstract of Ammar and Col. 3 lines 60 – 66 of Cruise).

Thus the applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited prior art, singly or in combination, anticipates the elements of the present invention.

The applicants believe the application is now in condition for allowance.
Thus examination, allowance, and prompt passage to issue are respectfully
requested.

Respectfully submitted,
David M. Creighton et al

By 
John E. Gunther
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 43,649

Raytheon Company
P. O. Box 902
EO/E4/N119
El Segundo, CA 90245

(310) 647-3723
(310) 647-2616 facs